

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

DATE: June 17, 2004

CALLED TO ORDER: 5:05 p.m.

ADJOURNED: 5:57 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

ATTENDING MEMBERS

Lonnell Conley, Chairman
James Bradford
Scott Keller
Dane Mahern
Mike Speedy

ABSENT MEMBERS

Angela Mansfield
Mary Moriarty Adams

AGENDA

PROPOSAL NO. 313, 2004 – appoints Amy Marks Callahan to the Air Pollution Control Board

“Do Pass”

Vote: 5-0

PROPOSAL NO. 314, 2004 – approves an increase of \$183,960 in the 2004 Budget of the Department of Public Works, Policy and Planning Division, (State Grants Fund) to pay IndyGo the remaining portion of their grant funding and to pay for a transit study, financed by the Public Mass Transit Funds (PMTF) passed through the State

“Do Pass”

Vote: 5-0

PROPOSAL NO. 315, 2004 – approves an increase of \$96,416 in the 2004 Budget of the Department of Public Works, Policy and Planning Division, (Non-Lapsing State of Indiana Grants Fund) to purchase a waste oil system, supplies, and a storage unit to aid in the disposal of hazardous waste financed by a grant from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management

“Do Pass”

Vote: 5-0

PROPOSAL NO. 316, 2004 – authorizes intersection controls for the Maples Subdivision (District 24)

“Do Pass”

Vote: 4-0

PROPOSAL NO. 317, 2004 – authorizes intersection controls for Speedway Woods Subdivision, Sections 1-6 (District 14)

“Do Pass”

Vote: 4-0

PROPOSAL NO. 318, 2004 – authorizes intersection controls for the intersection of 15th Street and Bazil Avenue (District 21)

“Do Pass”

Vote: 4-0

PROPOSAL NO. 319, 2004 – authorizes intersection controls for the intersection of 15th Street and Routiers Avenue (District 21)

“Do Pass”

Vote: 4-0

PROPOSAL NO. 320, 2004 – authorizes the deletion of parking restrictions on Porto Alegre Street from Michigan Street to 10th Street (District 15)

“Do Pass”

Vote: 4-0

PROPOSAL NO. 321, 2004 – authorizes the addition of parking restrictions on Porto Alegre Street from Limestone Street to Michigan Street (District 15)

“Do Pass”

Vote: 4-0

PROPOSAL NO. 322, 2004 – authorizes the addition of parking restrictions on Pierson Street from Ohio Street to New York Street (District 15)

“Do Pass”

Vote: 4-0

PROPOSAL NO. 323, 2004 – authorizes the removal of rush hour parking restrictions on Ohio Street between West Street and Capitol Avenue (District 15)

“Do Pass”

Vote: 4-0

PROPOSAL NO. 324, 2004 – authorizes intersection controls for the Wetherburn Subdivision (District 2)

“Do Pass”

Vote: 4-0

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

The Public Works Committee of the City-County Council met on Thursday, June 17, 2004. Chairman Lonnell Conley called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. with the following members present: Scott Keller, Dane Mahern, and Mike Speedy. James Bradford arrived shortly thereafter. Angela Mansfield and Mary Moriarty Adams were absent.

PROPOSAL NO. 313, 2004 – appoints Amy Marks Callahan to the Air Pollution Control Board

Ms. Callahan said that she graduated from the University of Illinois with a chemical engineering degree, worked for Eli Lilly Company in Indianapolis, then went back for her Masters Degree in civil and environmental engineering, and again returned to Indianapolis to work for Eli Lilly. She said that in her occupation she deals with manufacturing and environmental areas, with an emphasis in Title V permitting.

[Clerk's Note: Councillor Bradford arrived at 5:07 p.m.]

Chairman Conley welcomed Ms. Callahan and thanked her for her willingness to serve the community in this way.

Councillor Speedy asked what issues the Air Pollution Control Board deals with. Ms. Callahan said that she has not yet been involved with the board, but has heard they are reviewing the local pollution ordinance and is looking forward to helping with that. John Chavez, administrator of the Office of Environmental Services, Department of Public Works (DPW), said that he serves as the secretary of the board, and the most pressing issue before the board at this time is the 8-hour ozone implementation they are working on with the State. He said that the board is also, as Ms. Callahan said, updating the local pollution ordinance and serves as the hearing location for air pollution permit issuances.

Councillor Mahern moved, seconded by Councillor Speedy, to send Proposal No. 313, 2004 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 314, 2004 – approves an increase of \$183,960 in the 2004 Budget of the Department of Public Works, Policy and Planning Division, (State Grants Fund) to pay IndyGo the remaining portion of their grant funding and to pay for a transit study, financed by the Public Mass Transit Funds (PMTF) passed through the State

Mike Williams, finance officer for DPW, said that this proposal simply approves an appropriation to allow the City to transfer their portion of Public Mass Transit Funds

(PMTF) over to IndyGo to further assist them in their funding issues. He said that the City has acted as the administrator and pass-through entity of the funds, and keeps one percent of those funds as administrative costs. This \$183,960 is four years worth of accumulation of these one-percent funds.

Chairman Conley asked if there is any other use for this money or if it is just sitting there in an account. Mr. Williams stated that it can only be used for transit-related operations or studies, and has simply been sitting in an account. Chairman Conley asked if IndyGo can use the money for other needs, besides a study. Mr. Williams said that the funds cannot be used for capital purchases, but can be used for studies or other operating expenditures to help further mass transit.

Councillor Mahern said that any money that can be given to help out IndyGo at this crucial time is a good move. He said that his district is definitely affected by proposed route cuts, and he is glad to see this transfer.

Councillor Speedy asked if the Council annually approves this appropriation to access this fund. Mr. Williams said that it is not an annual appropriation. This proposal appropriates the balance of the fund, which began accumulating in 2000. After the appropriation, there will be nothing left. Councillor Speedy asked if the fund receives the same amount every year. Mr. Williams said that the total PMTF dollars are approximately \$9 million, of which 99% is passed through to IndyGo, and the City's administrative portion has been approximately \$360,000 per year.

Councillor Speedy asked specifically what these funds can be used for. Mr. Williams said that they can be used for transit-related operating expenses. Councillor Speedy asked if it has been determined exactly what this portion will be used for. Mr. Williams said that it has not, but a task force has been formed to help discuss how best to use funds. Barbara Lawrence, City Controller, said that some of the money will be used for an intensive route analysis. Councillor Speedy asked if IndyGo will be using in-house staff for the analysis or a third-party consultant. Ms. Lawrence said that they will use some of both, but a third-party is involved.

Councillor Bradford asked if after this appropriation, the fund then goes away. Mr. Williams said that there was a change in State legislature that now allows these funds to go directly to IndyGo instead of passing through the City. Councillor Bradford asked if the funds can only be used for studies and not for the shortfall in operating expenses. Mr. Williams said that he believes the only use prohibited is capital expenditures and the money can be used for operations, but he will check on that to make sure. Councillor Bradford said that continually spending money on study after study, with no money then to implement operating efficiencies, is of no benefit. Ms. Lawrence said that she believes this money will be used for both. She said that the grant is operational in nature and has to be spent on something that will better the system. She said she believes it can also be used for salaries. Councillor Bradford asked Mr. Williams to ask

IndyGo how they intend to use these funds and report back to the Committee. Mr. Williams agreed to check on this.

Councillor Speedy asked then if the PMTF grant money continues, but goes directly to IndyGo. Mr. Williams said that this is correct. Councillor Speedy asked if it is necessary for the City to participate. Ms. Lawrence said that the way the program was structured before was that the money flowed from the State to the City and the City served as the repository. That has now changed in the law, and the money can go directly to IndyGo, and there is no need for one percent of the funds to be used by the City to administer the grant. Councillor Speedy said that this seems a better streamlined way to handle it.

Councillor Mahern asked if this new way of distributing the grant will also free up some staff of the City to address other duties. Mr. Williams said that this is correct. Ms. Lawrence said that it will also be beneficial to IndyGo because they will receive the money quicker.

Chairman Conley said that this system will serve everyone better, because IndyGo can then use the funds as they wish without being under a “watchdog” situation.

Councillor Bradford moved, seconded by Councillor Mahern, to send Proposal No. 314, 2004 to the full Council with a “Do Pass” recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 315, 2004 – approves an increase of \$96,416 in the 2004 Budget of the Department of Public Works, Policy and Planning Division, (Non-Lapsing State of Indiana Grants Fund) to purchase a waste oil system, supplies, and a storage unit to aid in the disposal of hazardous waste financed by a grant from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management

Mr. Williams explained that this is an annual program grant from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) for the Tox-Drop program to dispose of hazardous waste, and the proposal will provide a storage unit to help in this disposal.

Chairman Conley asked if the units have been purchased yet. Mr. Chavez said that this will be the first unit the City has ever had. He said that the City currently pays \$90 for each waste oil drum sent for disposal, and they have been seeking ways to save money. He said that this unit will allow them to store up to 264 gallons of waste oil, which is significant, because waste oil recycling companies will actually purchase waste oil in 250-gallon bulk capacity. By purchasing this unit, the City will save all disposal costs, which will amount to approximately \$10,500 a year in savings.

Councillor Mahern asked if this is a one-time cost. Mr. Chavez said that this is correct and this unit should carry the City for quite some time. He said the department will continue to apply for other grants to help expand and upgrade in other areas.

Councillor Speedy said that he is pleased to be a co-sponsor of this proposal and believes keeping pollutants out of the drainage systems is of great value to the City, and this proposal will help with that cause. Chairman Conley said that this unit should also help with health issues. Mr. Chavez said that in 2001, the City collected 226,000 pounds of hazardous household waste through the Tox-Drop program, and that number has doubled to 598,000 pounds in 2003. He said that they are also making an effort to re-use some of the waste collected.

Councillor Bradford asked if the City has agreements with smaller cities and towns to use the facility. Mr. Chavez said that they do have an interlocal agreement with Johnson County who is not serviced already, and have some agreements with some small businesses. He said that they track the waste and bill it back to these entities at their cost.

Glenn Pratt, citizen, said that there is no Tox-Drop facility in Center Township, and there should be one. He said that a citizen has to go to the south side to dispose of these materials, and many people are not willing to do so. He said if a facility was in closer proximity, people would use it, and one needs to be provided in a more centralized location. Mr. Chavez said that they have an annual hazardous waste event in Center Township, and also can collect by appointments on South Belmont. He said that staff has even sometimes gone to elderly citizens' homes to collect if they are unable to deliver it. He said that citizens can call the Tox-Drop number and staff will help with any need. He said that they have looked into many areas in Center Township and have not been able to find a suitable location for a drop. Mr. Pratt said that the Council should strongly encourage DPW to find a location. He said that most people will not make the effort to dispose of hazardous waste legally if it is not convenient. He said that a centralized location would help with illegal dumping problems. Mr. Chavez said that there are lots of hurdles in finding an acceptable location. Chairman Conley asked if Mr. Pratt knows of suitable locations. Mr. Pratt said he would be glad to provide a list to the Committee.

Councillor Speedy asked if special accommodations had to be made at the Perry Township Government Center to allow for a Tox-Drop site. Mr. Chavez said that this facility was specially designed for this function. He said that there is a false floor, with a 1,250-gallon storage capacity, fire suppression, temperature control, etc. Councillor Speedy asked if the Tox-Drop is located at the firehouse or the government center. Mr. Chavez said it is actually next to the police station, about 150 feet from the firehouse.

Councillor Bradford asked if the City could work on investigating sites in Center Township. He said with drop-off hours on the south side during the work week from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., it is not very convenient to citizens living on the north side of town. He said that a grant could probably be secured if funding is a problem. Ms. Lawrence said that the City just went through a similar process for the Warren Township site, and it is not easy to identify locations as there are special requirements and it is

rather expensive. She said that they are aware of the need and are actively looking for other sites. She said that it is a great program, and Committee members should call Mr. Chavez for a tour of the facility to see how remarkable the recycling of some of these materials is.

Councillor Mahern asked Mr. Chavez to give the number of the Tox-Drop program again for the public's awareness. [327-4TOX or 327-4869]

Councillor Speedy moved, seconded by Councillor Mahern, to send Proposal No. 315, 2004 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

[Clerk's Note: Councillor Keller left at 5:42 p.m.]

Chairman Conley asked for consent to hear Proposal Nos. 316-324, 2004 together. Consent was given.

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PROPOSAL NO. 324, 2004 – authorizes intersection controls for the Wetherburn Subdivision (District 2)

Nathan Sheets, project engineer for DPW, read all of the digests for the proposals and identified district Councillors. He stated that all requirements have been met and district Councillors support the actions.

Councillor Mahern asked why there are two different proposals for Porto Alegre Street, one deleting parking restrictions and one adding them. Mr. Sheets said that the additional parking restrictions were requested by Indiana University-Purdue University of Indianapolis (IUPUI) because of the narrowness of the street. He said that in looking at the Code, the staff found a previous code concerning a portion of the street that was vacated to the Veteran's Administration two to three years ago, and the deletion is to simply clear up that Code language.

Councillor Bradford said that he is glad to see the removal of rush hour restrictions in Proposal No. 323, 2004. Mr. Sheets said that staff found the restrictions to be unnecessary.

Councillor Bradford moved, seconded by Councillor Mahern, to send Proposal Nos. 316-324, 2004 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 4-0.

Mr. Pratt complimented the Council on looking at regional transportation and provided members with a copy of the Sierra Club report on light rail and public transit projects. [Clerk's Note: A copy of this report is on file in the Council office with the original minutes of this meeting.] He said that there has been national legislation offered to cut the federal/state funding match for new transportation projects from 80/20 to 50/50. He congratulated the Council for taking the first step in looking at regional transportation by their establishment of a Regional Transit Authority (RTA) at their last meeting.

Councillor Bradford said that he walked Holly Creek recently to view the swelling, and would like to see the Committee do a walking tour to see the impact of stormwater drainage. He said that this would help to educate the public to clean up the creeks in their backyards and would be a great opportunity for this Committee to understand more about the stormwater utility. He said that Jason Thorn of DPW has offered a tour to the Committee to view the creek and stormwater system. Chairman Conley asked Councillor Bradford to go ahead and speak to Mr. Thorn about this possibility, as he feels there would be lots of interest.

There being no further business, and upon motion duly made, the meeting was adjourned at 5:57 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,